"PRETENTION"
"PRETENSION"

519

Marinette, persuadée que l'attitude froide de Gabriel Agreste à son égard est le fruit d'un malentendu, décide d'avoir une conversation à cœur ouvert avec le père du garçon dont elle est amoureuse… et son courage exemplaire inspire son amie Kagami ! La jeune fille, elle aussi, voudrait tant entrouvrir la porte du cœur de sa maman si autoritaire ! Hélas, la conversation tourne court quand un invité inattendu refait son apparition et enlève Kagami !
Qui est cet invité ? Ladybug et Chat Noir réussiront-ils à sauver Kagami ? Quant à Marinette et Adrien, pourront-ils un jour s'aimer librement ?

Convinced that Gabriel's coldness towards her stems from a misunderstanding , Marinette decides to have a heart-to-heart with the father of the boy she loves… and her outstanding courage inspires her friend Kagami! She too would love to open the door to her ever-commanding mom's heart! Alas, the conversation comes to a sudden end when an unexpected guest returns and spirits Kagami away!
Who is this mysterious guest? Will Ladybug and Cat Noir save Kagami? And will Marinette and Adrien ever have a chance to love each other freely?

Written by
Thomas Astruc, Mélanie Duval,
Fred Lenoir, Sébastien Thibaudeau

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1 **CROSS CUT - KAGAMI'S CAR / ADRIEN'S CAR**

Kagami's sitting alone in the back of the Tatsu automatic car.

1 TATSU (O.S.)
2pm, fencing class, 4pm meeting with your mother, 4:30pm Ikebana workshop --

Kagami sighs, gazing through the window at the Parisian landscape as it passes by.

CUT TO - Adrien is in the back of the car driven by the Gorilla. He is in the middle of a video call with Marinette.

2 ADRIEN
If I get out of fencing class early enough--

3 MARINETTE
--we'll have 4 minutes and 37 seconds left to spend with each other!

Marinette brandishes a fake mustache.

4 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
D'you think I should disguise myself? In case your father comes to pick you up?

Adrien smiles, amused. *

5 ADRIEN
Not today. I know he's too busy... Besides, no one will tell him that we met!

Adrien gives a little smile to the Gorilla, in the rear-view mirror. The Gorilla gives him a knowing smile in return.

2 **EXT. OUTSIDE SCHOOL - DAY**

The cars park outside the school simultaneously. Adrien and Kagami, their sports bag on their shoulders, greet each other and step into the courtyard together, without seeing... the silhouette of ARGOS, perched on the roof of the school, watching them.

3 **INT. LAIR - DAY**

In Monarch's lair, Gabriel, sitting on a techno-magical chair, and Nathalie, at the controls, are trying to make the dark mark on Gabriel's chest disappear (the one Cat Noir's cataclysm left during episode 503, ***Destruction***): they draw all the Kwamis' magical energy through wires that extend from Gabriel's chest to the magical creatures' small cages. The dark mark shrinks... shrinks...

6 ROARR
Did no one ever tell you... that stealing other's energy against their will... isn't nice?

The lights are crackling like crazy, and the poor kwamis, suspended in their cages, look completely exhausted!

But Nathalie keeps increasing the power! When... KRAAAAAK!!! The whole circuit shorts. The black mark returns to its full size!

The kwamis fall to the floor of their cages, out of breath.

7 KAALKI
I told you! No magic can heal this wound!

8 BAARK
A Cat Noir cataclysm... is like the end of the world... it can't be healed!

Gabriel stands up, furious, and belches:

9 GABRIEL
WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT HEALING?! I don't need to heal!!! All I need is... (*realizes*) time!

Gabriel takes off the electrodes and puts his shirt back on.

10 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
More time! To seize Ladybug's and Cat Noir's Miraculous!
(*hopeful*)
Then I could wish for anything -- I could fix everything, save my wife,
(*To Nathalie*)
You too, Natalie... and save myself...

Mrs. Tsurugi's voice curtly interrupts his hopeful flourish.

11 MRS. TSURUGI (OFF)
You're forgetting my part of the deal, Gabriel-san!

Sitting aside, in the darkness of the lair (we hadn't seen her until now), Mrs. Tsurugi goes on:

12 MRS. TSURUGI (CONT'D)
As always, you're losing yourself in sentimental trifles. Our vision of the future is much bigger than that! We are connected, as are our children! They were made for each other, and I will not tolerate another glitch in our plan!
(*A beat*)
(MORE)

MRS. TSURUGI (CONT'D)
Whether it be Adrien's cousin -- that Felix boy -- or this Marinette Dupain-Cheng who keeps lurking around your son. My daughter's behavior is exemplary, and I expect the same from your descendant!

Gabriel scowls.

13 GABRIEL
I promise you I'm going to regain control over Adrien. And seize ALL the Miraculous. Ladybug's, Cat Noir's... and the Peacock!

With these words, he places a strange technological monocle in Mrs. Tsurugi's hands. **An illustration is superimposed:** Felix, at the end of season 4, wearing the monocle.

14 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
As it turns out, Felix had the bright idea of leaving this behind during his last visit here...

Without batting an eye, Mrs. Tsurugi feels the object and whispers:

15 MRS. TSURUGI
Interesting.

4 **INT. SCHOOL/SCHOOLYARD - DAY**

Kagami and Adrien come out of their fencing class. Just as they reach the top of the steps, a psyched Marinette bursts in on her scooter, taking off her helmet.

16 MARINETTE
YOU KNOW WHAT, ADRIEN?! No more mustaches and four minutes and thirty seven seconds dates, THAT'S OVER! I've been doing some thinking, and we shouldn't have to hide! *

Marinette seems to only then realize Kagami's here. The look on her face changes suddenly – she's happy to see her friend.

17 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
Oh, hey Kagami, how are you?

Kagami, amused by Marinette's surprising personality, smiles.

18 KAGAMI
Hello Marinette, I'm fine, thank you!

As for Adrien, he darkens and looks down, sheepish.

19 ADRIEN
I'm sorry, Marinette, it's my fault... I just couldn't talk to my father...

But Marinette can't stand still and interrupts him. Gesticulating profusely to support her demonstration, she explains her idea.

20 MARINETTE
NO! DON'T APOLOGIZE! It MAKES SENSE that you didn't make it work! *
Because that's YOU!

Seeing Adrien making a funny, slightly offended face, Marinette backtracks as best she can!

21 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
I mean, not *you*, you, but you as in "NOT ME"! Your dad doesn't have a problem with YOU anymore, he's even become super cool, making you pancakes, giving you all the freedom you need... he's come such a long way, and that's amazing! But he does have a problem with ME! He feels worried... and I would be too, if I were him!!! He thinks I'm one of those fans who follow you everywhere, shower you with hand-knitted gifts and know every single one of your middle name days...

22 KAGAMI
(*amused*)
Isn't that what you used to do, Marinette?

23 MARINETTE
Yes... except no! I mean yes! But I was doing it out of love, and besides, I've changed a lot!

24 KAGAMI
You're right.

25 MARINETTE
(*proudly*) Really, you think I've changed a lot?

26 KAGAMI
No. Well, not that much. But you're right to want to talk to Adrien's father.

Just then, Kagami sees TATSU coming to pick her up already. It makes her "click".

27 KAGAMI (CONT'D)
I too have been running away from my responsibilities for too long. It is time I talked to my mother. We are no longer living in the age of our ancestors.
(*A beat*)
Children should be able to decide their future freely.

Writers' note: The end of Kagami's line here clearly refers to Felix's line when he was disguised as Adrien in episode ***Emotion***.

Before walking to the car as it parks, Kagami tells her friends:

28 KAGAMI (CONT'D)
I don't want to leave my future to fate.

Adrien and Marinette watch her car drive away, while Adrien's car drives up from the other side. Adrien sighs sadly.

29 ADRIEN
Four minutes and thirty seven seconds goes by fast.

She takes his hand and smiles at him.

30 MARINETTE
Once I've convinced your father, we won't have to count the seconds anymore.

Adrien takes her hand and smiles at her, still looking apprehensive. Marinette tries to comfort him.

31 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
Everything's gonna be okay.

And then she leads him to the car, climbing in first and greeting the Gorilla cheerfully:

32 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
HELLO! How are you?!

... much to the Gorilla's surprise – he just grunts back in astonishment, and watches Adrien settle down in turn, with a worried look on his face. Adrien smiles at him.

33 ADRIEN
Everything's going to be okay, don't worry.

Meanwhile, Kagami, inside her car, sits down to face her mother, who greets her with an icy:

34 MRS. TSURUGI
You kept me waiting, Kagami.

5 **INT. GABRIEL'S STUDY - DAY**

From the window of his study, Gabriel sees the limousine parking in the courtyard of the mansion, and Adrien getting out with Marinette...

An evil smile creeps on his lips.

6 **INT. MANSION - ENTRANCE HALL - DAY**

Adrien and Marinette step inside the hall. Marinette, impressed by the stakes of this meeting, suddenly feels much less confident!

35 MARINETTE
Maybe I should've warned your father beforehand, sent him a letter or a text or an email or...

Adrien takes her hand to support her.

36 ADRIEN
You're right, Marinette. My father has changed.

They hear music coming from the kitchen.

37 ADRIEN (CONT'D)
Everything's gonna be okay.

Marinette smiles and repeats, as if to convince herself:

38 MARINETTE
Yes. Everything's gonna be okay.

7 **INT. AGRESTE KITCHEN - DAY**

Gabriel, wearing a kitchen apron, is cooking while humming to the music he's listening to. When Adrien and Marinette enter, he turns to them looking as delighted as a TV-ad dad.

39 GABRIEL
Aaah! Perfect timing, you two! It's snack time!

40 ADRIEN
Dad, Marinette and I need to tell you something!

Gabriel, staring at the two teenagers' joined hands, laughs affably and then:

41 GABRIEL
Of course, of course! Marinette, are pancakes okay for you?

42 MARINETTE
Uh... sure!?

43 GABRIEL
Adrien, how was practice?

44 ADRIEN
Great, dad!

His father lovingly tousles his hair while saying to Marinette, with a knowing look:

45 GABRIEL
His practice always goes great!
(*To Adrien*)
Adrien, you may leave us now, please.

Adrien looks at Marinette, embarrassed by the situation, then at his father – he doesn't understand...

46 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
I think Marinette and I will be more comfortable talking alone.

In an instant, all the levity has vanished from the room. Adrien gathers up his courage to protest:

47 ADRIEN
But... I'd rather stay here with Marinette...

Gabriel frowns. Clenching his fist, he restrains himself... and insists, in the softest voice he can:

48 GABRIEL
Adrien, I'm your father, and I am asking you to go up to your room.

Marinette, dumbfounded, sees Adrien look down and walk out of the room. Then Gabriel turns his back on her, and starts cooking pancakes happily, as if nothing had happened!

49 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
I'm listening, dear Marinette!

50 MARINETTE
(*Confused*)
Uh... well...

8 **INT. ADRIEN'S BEDROOM - DAY**

Adrien steps into his room... Plagg comes out of his pocket to go happily wallow on the bed.

51 PLAGG
Pheeew! We came this close to having to endure another serving of pancakes! Can't your father consider a change of menu? I mean, if he really wants to cook, I have a recipe for a Roquefort tartiflette -

But as he's about to gobble down a nice smelly camembert, Plagg freezes: Adrien is still standing in front of the door he's just closed, his hand on the handle. Upset.

52 ADRIEN
Plagg, I've got to go back down there! I can't leave Marinette all alone!

53 PLAGG
Well go ahead then, what's stopping you?!

54 ADRIEN
I can't... I can't disobey my father!

55 PLAGG
Then stay here with me and relax! (*gulping down his camembert*) What are you worried about? Marinette isn't a piece of cheese, he's not going to eat her!

9 **INT. AGRESTE KITCHEN - DAY**

Back in the kitchen, Marinette, red in the face and with an intense look in her eyes, finishes delivering a passionate speech to Gabriel – who still has his back turned to her!

56 MARINETTE
(...) And that's why I'm sure this is all just a big misunderstanding!

Silence. After what seems like an eternity to her, Gabriel finally turns off the music (which was being played via his Alliance ring), and finally turns to Marinette, to serve her a pancake on a plate.

57 GABRIEL
You're right Marinette, there is a misunderstanding... You see this pancake? It's your future.

Marinette looks at the pancake on her plate in surprise – she doesn't understand.

58 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
If it's not big enough for you, I can make it just the way you like. Simply tell me what you want: double pancake? Triple pancake? With jam? Maple syrup? Bananas? All you have to do is ask, and you'll have everything you wish for!

Marinette looks at her pancake plate, now surrounded by every possible side dish imaginable. Gabriel suddenly looks inspired and looks into the distance:

59 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
You know... I remember the hat you created for Adrien. You're talented.

INSERT SUPERIMPOSED IMAGE - excerpt from *Mr. Pigeon*: Gabriel congratulates Marinette on her hat.

60 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
And, with my support, the daughter of the local bakers could become the world's greatest designer.

INSERT SUPERIMPOSED IMAGES: Marinette on a catwalk, being applauded by everyone, surrounded by photographers...

61 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
The perfect pancake awaits you! The only thing you won't be able to do with that pancake... is share it with Adrien.

SUDDEN BREAK - Marinette, in front of her pancake, opens her eyes wide. She finally gets it. Gabriel notices and carries on in his light-hearted tone:

62 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
And to prove my point: do you see him in this kitchen? No. He's not with you, and he never will be. Because Adrien has a destiny, and that destiny does not include sharing pancakes with you.

63 MARINETTE
(stunned)
But... N-no! That can't be! Adrien and I are in love and——

Gabriel stands in front of her, suddenly threatening:

64 GABRIEL
I don't think you understand, child. So, let me put things differently. (*taking his time*) Life is like fashion. You think you have a choice, but all you have is the illusion of choice. And I decide what choices are given to you.. *

This is too much. Marinette gets incensed and stand in front of him, passionate!

65 MARINETTE
YOU'RE WRONG! Fashion isn't like that AT ALL!!!

She shoves her sketchbook in his face!

66 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
Fashion is about listening to people! It's about understanding who they are, what excites them, and creating the clothes that will help them express their inner world, help them connect with others, and make their dreams come true!

Gabriel guffaws and picks up the notebook. He begins to leaf through it, looking with utter disdain at the drawings Marinette has made of her friends - Rose, Juleka, Nino, etc. - wearing her creations.

67 GABRIEL
Haha, no. That's not fashion. That's making dresses for your dolls... Fashion is about creating a way of thinking, a way of life. Fashion is product, a marketing strategy...

All the images of the Gabriel brand are superimposed to illustrate what he's talking about: music videos, fashion shows, commercials with Adrien...

68 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
... an industry that relies on an uninterrupted trend renewal that forces you to either throw away everything you have and buy more, or - worse! - to be "out of fashion"!! Thanks to the clothes *I* create, the celebrities who wear them, the advertisements *I* design, and lastly, the Alliance rings that broadcast them, I *create* an idyllic vision - a perfection - that everyone aspires to achieve... while keeping it just out of their grasp...

Marinette's eyes go wide in shock. As Gabriel speaks, she remembers - images are superimposed: Marinette gawking in front of an Adrien commercial.

Gabriel savors the confusion he can guess in Marinette.

69 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
You finally understand the difference, don't you? <u>You</u> listen to people's desires, and create what they want. Somehow, people make you.

The camera gets closer to Gabriel, filming him like a plainclothes Monarch: evil, triumphant, convinced of his victory...

70 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
Whereas <u>I</u> create people's desires. They buy what <u>I</u> decide they'll buy. They think what <u>I</u> want them to think. <u>I'M</u> the one who makes people!

Deframe: At that very moment, Gabriel comes across the last page of Marinette's sketchtebook and laughs cruelly: it’s a double spread featuring Marinette and Adrien holding hands, in their dream wedding outfits.

71 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
You think you love Adrien, but you're just under the spell of this world I've created. A world where Adrien is a star, shining high above. A world where you are just part of the crowd below, looking up at him. That is why nothing can ever happen between you two.

He <CLAPS> the sketchbook shut, startling Marinette. He looks her straight in the eye and whispers:

72 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
The only choice I'm offering you is this: either you eat this pancake and have everything, except Adrien. Or you refuse the pancake and you'll have nothing... Except your childish dreams.

Marinette looks at the pancake on one side, her sketchbook on the other. Gabriel becomes affable again:

73 GABRIEL (CONT'D)
So, will you take your pancake with maple syrup or jam? I recommend jam, it's clementine. Slightly bitter, but really delicious!

Marinette jerk up and pushes her plate away.

74 MARINETTE
I think I've lost my appetite.

10 **INT. HALL - ADRIEN'S BEDROOM - HALL - DAY**

Marinette walks across the hall, in shock. Gabriel, satisfied, looks at her from the kitchen entrance. At the other end of the hall, the Gorilla, looking a little sorry, is already holding the door open. But Marinette stops at the foot of the stairs, looks towards the corridor that leads to Adrien's room... She hesitates. She takes a look at Gabriel, at the Gorilla, and... as if he understood what she had in mind...

75 GABRIEL
NO! I FORBID YOU!

But Marinette ignores him and starts running up the stairs to Adrien's door, which she opens! She finds Adrien, still standing where we left him, facing the door. He's very surprised!

76 ADRIEN
Marinette!?

77 MARINETTE
Adrien!

Marinette hugs him with all her strength and whispers:

78 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
I love you Adrien. I won't abandon you, ever!

In the hall, Gabriel orders the Gorilla to:

79 GABRIEL
Go get her! Now!

The poor bodyguard hesitates, walks up the first step, but Nathalie, alerted by the noise, comes out of her room and interferes:

80 NATHALIE
Don't take another step!

As Gabriel and Natalie defiantly stare at each other...

In the bedroom, Marinette loosens her embrace and smiles at Adrien:

81 MARINETTE
I'll always be there for you.

Then she turns around and comes back down the stairs with her head up. She passes Nathalie, the Gorilla, Gabriel... Before stepping out of the mansion, she turns one last time towards Gabriel:

82 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
You know what the problem is with your pancakes? Way too much flour, not enough butter. You're using an old, completely outdated recipe. No one likes them like that anymore.

As Gabriel, Natalie, the Gorilla goggle at her, she concludes proudly:

83 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
And that's the good thing about being a baker's daughter: I don't even need to try them to know that they're tasteless.

And SLAM! Marinette closes the door behind her!

11 **EXT. AGRESTE MANSION - DAY**

The second she's slammed the door, she takes her breath, her legs wobbly...

84 MARINETTE
(to herself)
What have I done?

12 **INT. TATSU - DAY**

In the car with her mother, Kagami concludes her plea, confident and firm:

85 KAGAMI
Which is why, Mother, I don't want you thinking of me and Adrien as a couple anymore, out of respect for Adrien's and my feelings, and Marinette's as well.

INSERT - Right then, ARGOS lands silently on the roof of the car and moves into a listening position.

89 BACK - Inside the car, Mrs. Tsurugi sits there for a beat, impassive... then she quickly grabs Kagami's wrist, forcing her to look at the ring on her finger:

86 MRS. TSURUGI
What do you see here, Kagami? I don't need my eyes to tell you! It is our family crest, and that crest dictates your behavior! A duty. If you're not your own Master, then you're already your own slave!

Kagami tries to hold her mother's gaze, but her mother growls, icy, terrifying, full of contempt. *

INSERT - Argos squints and whispers to himself: *

86A ARGOS *
No one should have to endure such words. *

Back to Mrs. Tsurugi. *

87 MRS. TSURUGI
How can you ever be part of the Masters... if you're a slave to your own emotions? Do we understand each other, Kagami?

But the moment Kagami looks down and gives in...

88 KAGAMI
Yes, mother.

...a peacock feather fan cuts a circle in the roof of the car above them! Argos rips the roof off. Mrs. Tsurugi draws her bokken in a flash, but Argos counters with his fan... and spirits Kagami away! As the car starts to blare stupidly:

89 TATSU
Sunroof activated! Sunroof activated! (*ad lib*)

Mrs. Tsurugi clenches in her fist the feather of Argos's fan which came off during the battle! She calls Gabriel on her Alliance and whispers:

90 MRS. TSURUGI
Felix is back.

Then she opens a secret compartment in the car, in which 6 Alliances are neatly stored. She puts them on one after the other. She orders Gabriel:

91 MRS. TSURUGI (CONT'D)
It is time to recover the Miraculous of the Peacock. Akumatize me.

INSERT - Gabriel has just entered his lair.

92 GABRIEL
Nooroo, dark wings rise!

Gabriel transforms into Monarch.

13 **INT. TATSU - DAY**

A mini-portal opens in the car next to Mrs. Tsurugi. A Megakuma comes out of it, easily destroys her Magical Charm, then enters her bokken. Monarch's mask appears on Mrs. Tsurugi's face.

93 MONARCH
MATAGI-GOZEN... That monster Felix has endangered our children enough! I am giving you the power to take back what was once ours and stop him from doing anymore harm!

Mrs. Tsurugi nods, merges with her car and... becomes **Matagi-Gozen,** a variation on **Ikari-Gozen:** this time the horse part is an INUMA, a dog/horse chimera, and the rider is separated from the trunk. Now equipped with a bow, she practices yabusame (Japanese mounted archery).

94 MATAGI-GOZEN
Let the power of my arrows put our descendants back on the straight path of their destiny!

In the lair, Monarch puts his ring against Pollen's cage.

95 MONARCH
Pollen, your power is now mine!

Matagi-Gozen's first Alliance lights up in the color of the Miraculous of the Bee (Yellow).

96 MONARCH (O.S.) (CONT'D)
The essence of the Miraculous of action will give you the power of paralysis.

As Matagi-Gozen notices that her arrows have become paralyzing (they turn yellow), in the lair, Monarch pins his ring against Orikko's cage.

97 MONARCH (CONT'D)
Orikko, your power is now mine!

As the ring charges, Monarch addresses Matagi-Gozen again:

98 MONARCH (CONT'D)
To ensure our success, I am transferring the essence of the Miraculous of Pretension to you. It will give you the ability to grant yourself... the power of your choice!

Monarch presses the seal of the Rooster on the ring.

99 MONARCH (CONT'D)
Transfer!

We enter Matagi-Gozen's second Alliance, where an electronic component lights up in the color of the Miraculous of the Rooster (Red).

100 MATAGI-GOZEN
Sublimation! I am granting myself the power of a SUPER SENSE OF SMELL! *

Matagi-Gozen gives her mount the peacock feather left by Argos to smell: glowing tracks the color of Argos appear, showing his trail neatly!

101 MATAGI-GOZEN (CONT'D)
Now I can follow your trail, ARGOS!

In his lair, Monarch places his ring against Mullo's cage.

102 MONARCH
Mullo, your power is now mine! Transfer!

The second she receives the new power in one of her Alliances, Matagi-Gozen uses it.

103 MATAGI-GOZEN
Multitude!

She splits into a fearsome herd of 4 MATAGI-GOZENS, all equipped with the same powers! The hunt is on! Meanwhile, Monarch transfers Kaalki's power.

104 MONARCH
And finally, I am transferring to you the essence of the Miraculous of Migration. It will allow you to teleport anywhere. Transfer!

We dive into another of Matagi-Gozen's Alliance rings. An electronic component lights up in the color of the Miraculous of the Horse (Green).

In his lair, Monarch shivers with jubilation, thrilled by the power of his new scheme.

105 MONARCH (CONT'D)
Matagi-Gozens... Seize Ladybug's, Cat Noir's and Argos's Miraculous.
(MORE)

MONARCH (CONT'D)
Then our children will live happily ever after!

106 MATAGI-GOZEN
Well spoken.

The 4 Matagi-Gozens start chasing the one glowing trail Argos left behind...

14 **INT. GUSTAVE EIFFEL'S OFFICE - DAY**

107 KAGAMI
Let go of me right now!

Argos, holding Kagami who struggles frantically, puts her down in Gustave Eiffel's office, then stands in front of the door to prevent her from fleeing. Kagami wants to hit him with a pedestal table.

108 ARGOS
STOP!

Argos de-transforms into Felix.

109 FELIX
I'm not your enemy! I just want to talk to you!

Kagami, destabilized to find herself face to face with a defenseless teenager, freezes...

INSERT - The riding Matagi-Gozens freeze as Argos's trail suddenly disappears!

110 MATAGI-GOZEN
Look for him, his trail is bound to turn up somewhere! Voyage!

Each of the 4 Matagi Gozen creates a teleportation portal. The four of them split up to scour the city in search of a potential new olfactory trail...

BACK - in Gustave Eiffel's office, where a suspicious Kagami is holding Felix at bay with her pedestal table!

111 KAGAMI
What is it you want to tell me?

Kagami's piercing gaze causes Felix to lose all confidence.

112 FELIX
(Stuttering)
I... I don't know! But ever since I saw you... I haven't been able to stop thinking about you! I felt that you and I — we're the same!

Is Felix... going full Marinette?! Kagami goggles at him in surprise, while Felix delicately puts down the theatening table on the side.

113 FELIX (CONT'D)
... We have so much in common, and yet you're also so different! I... I've never met someone like you!

114 KAGAMI
We don't even know each other!!!

115 FELIX
I know you... I've been following you non-stop, and --

116 KAGAMI
Even better! You follow me, you spy on me... and now you've kidnapped me so you could get to know me?!

117 FELIX
Uh... yes!?

Kagami stops for a beat. She looks him up and down, then concludes with a withering:

118 KAGAMI
You are utterly incompetent at social relations.

Felix looks down, sheepishly, with an embarrassed smile. *

118A KAGAMI (CONT'D) *
You can't take someone away against their will! *

118B FELIX *
Sorry... I won't do it again. I just wanted to protect you from your mother. She can't talk to you like this. *

Kagami's eyes go wide. Really, she would have never expected this from the supposedly dreadful Felix!

15 **EXT. STREET - DAY**

Marinette, meanwhile, is on her way home, helf-terrified and half-thrilled by what she's just done.

120 MARINETTE
I can't believe I stood up to Gabriel Agreste like that, Tikki!

121 TIKKI
You were incredible, Marinette!

Just then she and Tikki see a Matagi-Gozen bound out of a portal and gallop across the road.

16 **INT. ADRIEN'S BEDROOM - DAY**

Adrien, meanwhile, is in his room with Plagg. Still entranced what Marinette just did, the two are looking out the window dreamily:

122 ADRIEN
I can't believe she had the courage to stand up to my father!

123 PLAGG
This girl really is no pushover!

Suddenly Plagg and Adrien see a Matagi-Gozen land on the roof across the street!

SPLIT SCREEN: Marinette and Adrien, each on their side:

MARINETTE
Tikki... Spots on!

ADRIEN
Plagg... Claws out!

Marinette **transforms into Ladybug** / Adrien **transforms into Cat Noir!**

17 **EXT. PARIS - DAY**

Teleportation portals are opening and closing all across Paris. At the swimming pool, on the Seine, in the movie theater -- wherever they pop up, the Matagi-Gozens terrify everyone, but they hit a brick wall – they can't find the slightest trace of ARGOS. The 4 riders regroup.

124 MONARCH
Argos must have transformed back.

125 MATAGI-GOZEN
It doesn't matter, we have a way to track down Felix, too.

One of the Matagi-Gozens holds out Felix's monocle for all the others to sniff. Felix's trail (a different color than Argos's) appears. The Matagi Gozens start galloping, following the trail that goes up to the Eiffel Tower...

18 **INT/EXT. EIFFEL TOWER - GUSTAVE EIFFEL'S OFFICE - DAY**

Felix and Kagami, in the middle of their confrontation, hear a sudden <Klang Klang Klang> – the clatter of the Matagi-Gozens' hooves galloping up the pillars of the Eiffel Tower. The Matagi-Gozens surround them!

126 MATAGI-GOZEN
(together) Kagami, don't move! I've come to save you from that good-for-nothing!

Ladybug and Cat Noir show up simultaneously and adopt a protective stance outside the office where they find Kagami and--

127 LADYBUG
Felix?!

But Ladybug doesn't get distracted.

128 LADYBUG (CONT'D)
We've come to save you, Kagami!

Kagami watches, in turns, her akumatized "mothers", Ladybug, Cat Noir, and Felix, who she no longer understands! He takes her hand and says, looking her in the eye:

129 FELIX
I'm the one who's come to save you!
Duusuu, spread my feathers! *

As Felix begins to transform, behind the window of the office...

... the furious Matagi-Gozens aim their bows at the superheroes!

132 MATAGI-GOZEN
Felix abducted my daughter, and you want to stop me from saving her!? Whose side are you on, Ladybug and Cat Noir?

The two heroes look at each other, slightly confused!

133 LADYBUG
Uh...

134 CAT NOIR
We—ell...

In the office, Felix, now transformed into Argos, grips Kagami's hand and:

135 ARGOS
FOLLOW ME!

He takes a run-up and runs away with her...

136 MATAGI-GOZEN
Whether you're Argos or Felix, you will never escape us!

Two Matagi-Gozens set off in pursuit.

Ladybug prepares to jump into the void to follow them.

137 LADYBUG
You take those two, kitty? I'll take the other two... and Felix!

138 CAT NOIR
Teach him a lesson, M'Lady!

As Ladybug takes off, towed by her yo-yo, Cat Noir turns to "his" two Matagi-Gozens.

139 CAT NOIR (CONT'D)
Alright horsies, time to play! D'you prefer Cat's cradle, or Horseshoes?

He gets a volley of arrows from the two akumatized villains. As they shoot, they say:

140 MATAGI-GOZEN 1
So this is what heroes do? Not only did you help that monster escape...

141 MATAGI-GOZEN 2
...but now you're going to fight me, a mother trying to save her daughter?

The volley of arrows stops. A beat.

142 CAT NOIR
Ok, so you're more into darts, then.
(unfurling his staff, playful)
Fine by me!

He throws himself into battle, his staff twirling as a shield against the two furious horsewomen! While pirouetting, hitting, dodging, he contacts Ladybug with his earpiece.

143 CAT NOIR (CONT'D)
Hey, M'lady, when you think about it, they're not wrong... We all want the same thing! If we let them save Kagami... we could seize the opportunity to get Felix's Miraculous back!

Ladybug is in the middle of a fierce battle against the other two MATAGI-GOZENS to prevent them from following Argos's trail.

144 LADYBUG
Too risky! They're under Monarch's influence!

...she says, as she dodges a volley of arrows... but misses a hoof that sends her crashing into a wall, while one of the two Matagis teleports right behind her! Ladybug is surrounded.

145 LADYBUG (CONT'D)
Mrs. Tsurugi! Reject the Megakuma and let us return your daughter safely back to you!

INSERT - Monarch chuckles:

146 MONARCH
To think that they could have sided with us... but since they chose to fight; --fight it shall be!

He places his ring against Roarr's cage.

147 MONARCH (CONT'D)
Roarr, your power is now mine!

His ring charges.

148 MONARCH (CONT'D)
Matagi-Gozen, I am transferring the essence of the Miraculous of ELATION to you – it will grant you the power of the superpunch!

We enter the Matagi-Gozens' fifth Alliance ring. An electronic component lights up in the color of the Miraculous of the Tiger (Purple). While half of their arrows turn purple, all the Matagi-Gozen roar in unison!

149 MATAGI-GOZENS (ALL)
If you're not with me, you're against me!

The Matagi-Gozen closest to Cat Noir shoots a purple "**superpunch**" arrow into the Eiffel Tower. The impact causes the building to bend abruptly in an end-of-the-world creaking sound and to collapse, taking Cat Noir with it! He finds himself trapped under a mountain of rubble!

150 CAT NOIR
Hah!

The second he manages to free himself, the other Matagi-Gozen is on him, ready to shoot a paralyzing arrow.

151 CAT NOIR (CONT'D)
Cataclysm!

He puts his hand charged with negative energy on the ground and disappears into an abyss of debris and dust.

Matagi-Gozen stands up with an evil smile: Cat Noir has left his staff behind.

152 MATAGI-GOZEN
Fleeing is the weapon of cowards... and this staff is the weapon that will bring your downfall, Cat Noir! *

She gives her mount the staff to sniff... Cat Noir's trail lights up!

153 MATAGI-GOZEN (CONT'D)
If it's hide-and-seek you want to play...

She jumps into the abyss after him, while the other Matagi-Gozen gallops away from the scene.

19 **EXT. IN THE SEWERS - NIGHT**

Cat Noir is running among the rats, with the furious Matagi-Gozen on his heels, shooting venomous arrows. A rat gets hit and is immobilized on the spot.

154 CAT NOIR
I take it back! I don't want to play anymore!

Cat Noir leaps over the rat and disappears into a tunnel.

20 **EXT. TOP OF THE ARC DE TRIOMPHE - DAY**

Ladybug is fighting the 2 Matagi-Gozens. One of them sees Argos in the distance, jumping from roof to roof, so far that he’s about to disappear.

155 MATAGI-GOZEN 1
We're about to lose him!

156 MATAGI-GOZEN 2
Multitude!

Matagi-Gozen 2 splits into two. One leaves in pursuit of the trail left by Argos, the other two continue to attack Ladybug.

21 **EXT. BACK ALLEY - DAY**

Argos and Kagami have taken refuge in a small corner in a backstreet, hiding behind a dumpster. He sees a Matagi-Gozen looking for them, lost between several luminous trails (cf. Jurassic Park – the children hiding in the kitchen with the Raptors looking for them).

157 KAGAMI
(whispering)
You know, if you leave me here, my mother will calm down, and it'll all be over. She'll stop attacking you!

158 ARGOS
(whispering)
I’m not here to return you to your mother... but to set you free from her!

159 KAGAMI
(cut to the quick)
I don't need you to set me free from anything. I can very well set myself free!

With an aikido grip, Kagami manages to free herself from Argos and returns into the open. With a small smile, she tells Argos (who Matagi-Gozen can't see) over her shoulder:

160 KAGAMI (CONT'D)
If I were you, I wouldn't stick around. She doesn't seem to like you!

But as she turns to MATAGI GOZEN, who's finally seen her, she sees her shoot a yellow arrow in her direction!

161 MATAGI-GOZEN
You're not going anywhere, Kagami. VENOM!!!

Frozen to the spot by surprise, Kagami is about to get hit by the arrow... when Argos appears in front of her, deflects the projectile with his fan and leaps into the air, taking Kagami with him!

162 ARGOS
She doesn't seem to like you either!

In Argos's arms, Kagami is in shock.

163 KAGAMI
My mother pretends to come to my rescue... and then shoots arrows at me?

Argos smiles kindly.

164 ARGOS
And you never met my father. He was a thousand times worse.

He lands on a roof, gently drops Kagami on it... and then breaks his fan into pieces!

165 KAGAMI
But... Don't you need it to fight?!

166 ARGOS
Fighting is no longer my priority. All I care about is your safety.

Kagami watches him quietly tie a piece of peacock feather to a rock and throw it away, then throw another piece down a chimney... She gets increasingly disconcerted.

In the street, the Matagi-Gozen galloping along Argos's glowing trail suddenly raises her nose in bewilderment: Argos's glowing trail is now divided into a dozen trails... ZOOM OUT: Argos has scattered pieces of feathers from his fan all over the city!

167 MATAGI-GOZEN
NO!

Argos throws the last piece of the fan into a garbage truck. The truck starts up. As the last "trail" speeds away from them, Argos opens a manhole cover and invites Kagami to follow him.

168 ARGOS
After you.

169 KAGAMI
You know how to pick a place for a date...

22 **EXT. IN THE SEWERS - NIGHT**

The Matagi-Gozen that was galloping in the sewers on Cat Noir's trail stops running too: the trail suddenly disappears. And for good reason...

... Much further down the sewers, we find Adrien de-transformed, hiding behind a wall.

He struggles to catch his breath while Plagg gulps down a camembert and cheerfully scans their surroundings.

170 PLAGG
Did you know that the first cheese dairies of the Merovingian era were set up in the catacombs? *(his eyes light up)* Maybe they left some behind!

But Adrien beckons him to be quiet and listens up...

171 ADRIEN
Shhh... We're not alone. *(whispering)* Plagg! Claws out!

Transformed into **Cat Noir** again (equipped with a staff again), he tiptoes into the tunnels, without realizing that in so doing, he's reactivated his trail.

Further down the sewers, Kagami is increasingly baffled by Argos' behavior:

172 KAGAMI
I don't understand... You have the Miraculous of the Peacock, why don't you create a Sentimonster to get us out of here?

173 ARGOS
First of all, don't call them that.

Argos de-transforms. Now that he's Felix again, as he removes a cufflink which he then throws away in the waterfall of the sewer to create another decoy trail, he carries on:

174 FELIX
I refuse to create a being only to manipulate them, control them, abuse them... (*darkening*) and end up destroying them.

Hiding in ambush, Cat Noir spots them. He contacts Ladybug:

175 CAT NOIR
(*whispering*) I found Kagami and Felix... Felix has transformed back, now's the time!

Without realizing they're being followed, Felix continues to scatter his trail (he slides his watch into an alley using a manhole cover above him, hides another cufflink under some trash, gives one of his socks to a rat that runs away with it, etc.).

176 FELIX
When you bring a living being into this world, you have a responsibility towards them. Your duty is to protect them, love them, help them discover their own meaning to their existence... (*his voice breaks*) To deprive them of that is monstrous.

Kagami approaches slowly. She gets it now.

177 KAGAMI
Are you talking about... yourself?

He turns to her, takes her hand...

178 FELIX
I'm talking about us.

When suddenly...

179 LADYBUG (OFF)
FELIX!!! SET KAGAMI FREE!!

Cat Noir and Ladybug burst in, with Ladybug armed with **a tiny pair of red-and-black scissors** (her Lucky Charm!).

180 CAT NOIR
And this time you're going to give us back the Miraculous of the Peacock!

But Kagami steps in to protect Felix.

181 KAGAMI
I am nobody's prisoner! Felix is not your enemy, he's like me! He doesn't know how to express himself... Everyone is wrong about him! *
(A beat. She looks at him and whispers to him.)
Including me.

Ladybug and Cat Noir are flabbergasted! Cat Noir turns to Ladybug:

182 CAT NOIR
Do you... understand what's going on?

But she's just as confused as he is! All the more so as, even though she scans the scene in "ladybug vision" mode, she has absolutely no idea what to do with her mini pair of Lucky Charm scissors.

183 LADYBUG
I'm not sure of anything anymore!

Just then, ZWIIMM! Two teleportation portals (Voyage) open behind Kagami and Felix, and two more open behind Ladybug and Cat Noir. Four Matagi-Gozens emerge from them: they're surrounded. The Matagi-Gozens who used Voyage to get here congratulate the fifth...

184 MATAGI-GOZEN
Thank you for showing us the way!

... as she trots in down the tunnel, following Cat Noir's trail, which she points to triumphantly.

185 CAT NOIR
How...?

The Matagi-Gozen brandishes the staff she used to track him down.

186 MATAGI-GOZEN 5
You shouldn't leave your toys lying around, cat!

187 MATAGI-GOZEN 1
And now... you're going to give me back my daughter... and relinquish all your Miraculous!!!

Without giving the heroes time to pull themselves together, the 5 riders start shooting a barrage of arrows at them!

Ladybug and Cat Noir jump in front of Felix and Kagami in a protective stance, spinning their staff and yoyo as shields! Ladybug looks around in "Ladybug vision"... and connects **Kagami, a floating dumpster**, **her scissors...** and **Felix**! She hands the scissors to Kagami.

188 LADYBUG
I'm counting on you!

With a flick of her yo-yo, she picks up the dumpster as a stunned Cat Noir, still shielding them, watches.

189 CAT NOIR
Uh... M'lady, are you sure now is a good time to go dumpster diving?

190 LADYBUG
No... Now is a time to trust Felix!

Behind Cat Noir, who can't believe his (Cat's) ears, Felix opens his eyes wide, while Ladybug throws the dumpster to him, shouting:

191 LADYBUG (CONT'D)
RUN!!! WE'LL COVER YOU!

Felix turns to Kagami, incredulous – he doesn't know what to do! She takes his hand and gives him a reassuring little smile:

192 KAGAMI
Trust them.

Felix nods gently, hides under the dumpster that will serve as an armor and rushes as fast as he can towards the waterfall, shielded from the deluge of arrows by Ladybug. He jumps into the void, while Ladybug shouts out:

193 LADYBUG
KAGAMI! YOU'RE UP! *

Kagami deftly leaps onto the nearest rider, who got distracted by Felix's escape, and cuts the string of her bow with the mini pair of Lucky Charm scissors! The Megakuma flies away, and Ladybug captures it.

194 LADYBUG (CONT'D)
No more evil-doing for you, Megakuma! Time to de-evilize!

Then she releases the harmless white butterfly.

195 LADYBUG (CONT'D)
Bye bye little butterfly. Miraculous Ladybug!

INSERT: All over Paris, the magic ladybugs fix everything. Ladybug turns to the now deakumatized Mrs. Tsurugi, giving her a Magical Charm.

196 LADYBUG (CONT'D)
Mrs. Tsurugi, this Magical Charm will remind you that, in case of a problem, Monarch will never be a good ally. You can, however, always count on us.

Cat Noir, standing away from them, is gazing at the waterfall where Felix disappeared. Ladybug joins him and holds out her fist for their ritual "pound it". He bumps it without taking his eyes off the waterfall.

197 CAT NOIR
We let him get away with the Miraculous of the Peacock...

198 LADYBUG
I hope we won't regret it.

23 **EXT. BANKS OF THE SEINE - DAY**

No sooner has Mrs. Tsurugi walked away to get to her car than she rage-throws her Magical Charm into a trash can and calls Gabriel via her Alliance.

199 MRS. TSURUGI
How could we fail? Our plan was perfect!

200 GABRIEL
It was your pretension that was our undoing, Tsurugi San.

201 MRS. TSURUGI
How... dare you?!

202 GABRIEL
Despite what you claimed, your daughter is not under your control. She's the reason we failed.

Tsurugi-san, offended, hangs up curtly and goes to her car, where Kagami is already waiting.

24 **INT. TATSU CAR - DAY**

The car starts. Kagami, determined to be heard, goes on the offensive again:

203 KAGAMI
Mother. I can no longer accept your dictating my behavior. To follow one's heart is not a weakness!

204 MRS. TSURUGI
(Icy)
I was wrong about you. You are weak, controlled by your feelings. You are not up to our family's ambitions! But I will not let you add humiliation to the disappointment you already are to me...

Kagami looks down. Mrs. Tsurugi holds out her hand.

205 MRS. TSURUGI (CONT'D)
And if I have to force you into obedience for that, then I will. Give me back your ring, Kagami. You're no longer worthy of our family crest.

Kagami gives her her ring back.

25 **INT. AGRESTE MANSION - DINING ROOM - EVENING**

The Agrestes are having dinner. Nathalie, Gabriel and Adrien are sitting at table.

206 GABRIEL
All things considered... I understand why you like that Marinette Dupain Cheng so much!

Adrien looks up at his father in surprise.

207 ADIREN
You do!?

208 GABRIEL
She really is an incredible young lady... Such passion. Such determination... Enjoy your time with her, my son. Those are precious moments, creating memories you will cherish deeply... when you're in London next year.

Adrien opens his eyes wide. In shock, he gets up, knocking over his chair. He doesn't pick it up. Staring at the floor, his fists clenched, he contains as best he can an anger that we had never seen in him before. Gabriel watches him as if waiting for something. But Adrien simply whispers:

209 ADRIEN
May I go up to my room? I think I've lost my appetite.

Gabriel looks affable again.

210 GABRIEL
But of course Adrien. You're free.

The second Adrien has left the room, an aghast Nathalie turns to Gabriel:

211 NATHALIE
You really want to send him to London?!

212 GABRIEL
It's for his own good (*looking Nathalie straight in the eye*). And I don't know who could stop me.

26 **INT. ADRIEN'S BEDROOM - EVENING**

Back on Adrien, in his room, facetiming Marinette on his computer.

213 ADRIEN
What you did today with my father was heroic. I wish I had your courage. I'll always love you, you know.

Marinette is surprised by Adrien's serious tone.

214 MARINETTE
Adrien... is everything all right?

215 ADRIEN
Of course everything's all right. Good night, Marinette.

He hangs up. Next to him, Plagg is in a state of shock.

216 PLAGG
Of course?! Of course?! OF COURSE NOT "OF COURSE"! Nothing's all right AT ALL, that’s for sure! How are you going to be Cat Noir if you're in London?! And Marinette... how are you going to be together if you're not together?! WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?!

217 ADRIEN
I don't know, Plagg... but I hope we’ll figure it out.

POSTER PAINT

27 **INT. MOVIE THEATER**

Kagami is sitting in a movie theater. The light goes down and a boy comes and sits next to her. It's Felix. She's not surprised to see him here.

218 FELIX
Were you followed?

219 KAGAMI
My mother thinks I'm at Ikebana class.

Felix takes her hand, then puts something in her palm. She takes a look. Her eyes widen in surprise: it’s her ring.

220 FELIX
The ring you gave your mother was a fake. This is the real one.

221 KAGAMI
How is this possible?

SUPERIMPOSED FLASHBACK: Just as they were about to part under the deluge of arrows, when she took his hand one last time, Felix seized his chance to take her ring and replace it with the fake one!

222 FELIX
The last of the Tsurugis isn't your mother -- it's you. The rules of your family no longer have to be those created by your ancestors... From now on, they’re yours to make.

Kagami nods, determined, and takes Felix's hand.

*

END OF EPISODE